



OFF THE PRESS

The Waterfall That Built a City: The Falls of St. Anthony in Minneapolis. By LUCILE M. KANE. (St. Paul, Minnesota Historical Society, 1966. x, 224 p. Illustrations, maps. \$5.00.)

Reviewed by Charles N. Glaab

MOST major American cities have foundations in commerce; an essential theme of their early histories is an attempt to win transportation as a means of promoting trade and growth. Much of the American urban history dealing with the nineteenth century has centered on this aspect of city development, and it is important now to have available a thorough, scholarly study of a city which was an exception to this rule. The history of Minneapolis is tied to the utilization of a natural asset significant for manufacturing—the water power of the Mississippi River's Falls of St. Anthony.

By focusing on the story of the development of this resource, Miss Kane, particularly in the early chapters of her work, has isolated and illuminated a central theme in the history of a community. She traces this theme from the establishment of grist and sawmills at the site in the 1820s, through the founding and early growth in the 1830s of the rival towns of St. Anthony and Minneapolis, through the development of a manufacturing complex in the area (which became for a time the nation's largest flour-milling center), and through the 1880s, when Minneapolis steadily expanded its early manufacturing base to emerge as a major American metropolis. Although in her later chapters

the author does not lose sight of the city's continuing development, she stresses other elements in the story of the falls: changes in technology, such as the development of hydroelectricity; conflicts over public policy toward water-power rights; and consolidation of companies owning the local water power.

In addition to supplying an excellent narrative account of the falls and the city, Miss Kane has contributed to an understanding of several more general topics in American urban history: the role of speculative town companies in the early period of frontier cities; the doctrine of continentalism, emphasizing the importance of the interior in the American future and particularly in the growth of great cities—a doctrine which informed the writings of most western city promoters; the intense urban rivalry characteristic of growing new regions; and the importance of ideology and central symbols in the forging of civic unity. On this last point the author perceptively observes that even after water power became of secondary importance in the economy of the city, the falls retained a tenacious hold on Minneapolis citizens. This is reflected in the presence of the cataract on the city's official seal and in frequent local comments, made well into the twentieth century, saying, in effect, that to "the great cataract . . . the city owes its origins, its existence, and the principal elements which form its condition and character."

The Waterfall That Built a City is a monograph to be commended on several counts. It is limited in scope but places a local topic in a broad setting. It is thoroughly researched, well documented, and clearly written, even when complex technical topics are dealt with. A special word should be said for the illustrations, which are of unusually high quality; they alone

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would make the book worth while to those interested in the history of an important American city.

FRONTIER FORT

Citadel in the Wilderness: The Story of Fort Snelling and the Old Northwest Frontier. By EVAN JONES. (New York, Coward-McCann, Inc., 1966. 255 p. Illustrations. \$5.95.)

Reviewed by H. Allan Tolbert

SO EAGERLY AWAITED has *Citadel in the Wilderness* been that this review was written from the galley proofs. Fortunately, an advance copy of the book arrived by special delivery before this issue of *Minnesota History* went to the printer. The handsome volume represents quality printing, has an eye-catching dust jacket, and contains twenty-three illustrations and a usable index. The natural interest of the Minnesota Historical Society in this publication was whetted by the fact that the institution is presently supervising the reconstruction of old Fort Snelling, and staff members had hoped that Mr. Jones's research might shed new light upon its physical appearance, construction details, and the daily activities of the garrison. However, the author devotes very little attention to the fort's architectural and internal history, and he fails to mention the plans for its reconstruction.

The narrative is regional in scope, and Fort Snelling's sectional influence is utilized primarily to focus attention on the northwestern frontier and upon the book's central personality—Lawrence Taliaferro, the resident Indian agent for two decades. Relying heavily on Taliaferro's papers, Mr. Jones gives a good account of the respected agent's services in behalf of his Sioux Indian charges and of his enmity toward the American Fur Company and its representatives. Other personages whose significance in the history of the Northwest forbids their exclusion from a study of such general nature are introduced and dealt with in varying degrees of depth, but little new information is presented about either the personalities, their activities, or Fort Snelling. Picking up the threads of his story at the beginning of the nineteenth century

from the standard source material and carrying on to the passing of the old frontier in the 1840s, Mr. Jones follows the development of the region through its most outstanding and noteworthy explorers, fur traders, military men, artists, missionaries, Indians, and Indian agents—virtually all of whom were associated in some way with Fort Snelling. Of the many personalities that cross the pages, however, Taliaferro is depicted with the greatest care.

Though it is not a definitive study, *Citadel in the Wilderness* is a timely and welcome addition to the literature of Fort Snelling and its significance in the growth of Minnesota and the development of the Northwest. The book's usefulness to scholars is limited by the absence of documentation, but by coupling a readable style with interesting historical sidelights and tempering the whole with sufficient research, Mr. Jones has compiled a volume that is well designed for introductory reading in Minnesota history.

PATHFINDER'S PAPERS

The Journals of Zebulon Montgomery Pike.

Edited by DONALD JACKSON. (Norman, University of Oklahoma Press, 1966. 2 volumes, xxviii, 464, 449 p. Maps, illustrations. \$20.00.)

Reviewed by Robert G. Athearn

DONALD JACKSON, who so ably edited and reproduced the *Letters of the Lewis and Clark Expedition* in 1962, now provides us with an up-to-date version of Pike's journals in two volumes. These are reissued, as he points out, for the first time since the Elliott Coues edition of 1895 and are the more valuable for such fresh supplementation as the captured maps and papers that lay in Mexico for a hundred years, the correspondence (in volume 2) of the Spanish officials, relating to what they regarded as an invasion of Spanish territory, and an inventory of the papers found in Pike's possession.

From the new evidence available Mr. Jackson concludes that Pike's supposed affiliation with Aaron Burr "fades for lack of evidence" and that his great loyalty to General James Wilkinson was "more boyish than sinister." He agrees with W. Eugene Hollon, who called his work on Pike *The Lost Pathfinder*, that the explorer was generally dogged by bad luck. His

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guilt by association with Burr, whether or not the charge was fair, lessened the acclaim he expected upon his return from the wilderness, and when he tried to turn the account of his travels into royalties, his publisher went bankrupt. Finally, having been promoted to a brigadier generalship as a result of the growing recognition of his explorations, he died at the age of thirty-four when a powder magazine exploded during the War of 1812.

The editor of these latest volumes has reproduced previously published documents almost without change, and in presenting manuscript material he has followed the pattern established in his earlier work on Lewis and Clark, performing only those editorial operations that would make the material easier to read, such as substituting periods for dashes that terminated sentences and making other minor but sensible alterations. A useful inclusion is a comprehensive bibliography relating to the explorer's career.

This, the first fresh edition of Pike's journals to be published in seventy years, will probably stand for at least that long before anyone is able to produce a more complete and useful revision. It is supplied with maps, ample references, and supplementary material; it is a handsome and handy documentary set that will be widely sought by those interested in westward expansion.

FRONTIER MEMOIRS

The Recollections of Philander Prescott: Frontiersman of the Old Northwest, 1819-1862. Edited by DONALD DEAN PARKER. (Lincoln, University of Nebraska Press, 1966. xi, 272 p. Maps, illustrations. \$5.95.)

Reviewed by Willoughby M. Babcock

IN THE SPRING of 1819 eighteen-year-old Philander Prescott of upstate New York journeyed to Minnesota via Detroit, Green Bay, Prairie du Chien, and the upper Mississippi as a clerk and fur trader. Until his murder by Sioux Indians at the Redwood Agency in August, 1862, his career was one of great adventure, hazard, and service in the making of early Min-

nesota history. His autobiographical *Recollections*, herewith edited by Professor Donald Dean Parker, throw a bright new light on the forty-three-year period in the Northwest and make fascinating reading as well.

Through his marriage (at first by Indian custom and eventually legalized) to the daughter of a Sioux chief of the Lake Calhoun band, Prescott became an expert in that tribal language. As a Dakota linguist he was in constant demand by government officials as an interpreter for conferences and treaty negotiations.

Together with Major Lawrence Taliaferro, the Indian agent at Fort Snelling, and the Pond brothers, Prescott was responsible for getting farm operations under way among various Indian bands along the Minnesota River Valley, where he served as government superintendent of farming in the early 1850s. His death at the hands of blood-crazy young Sioux in August, 1862, was deeply felt by the Indians themselves. They had lost a great friend.

Fortunately Governor Alexander Ramsey in 1860 had induced Prescott to write his "Recollections." The manuscript, preserved in the collections of the Minnesota Historical Society, is now handsomely published by the University of Nebraska Press.

The incorporation of some fifty pages of reports on the progress of Sioux Indian agriculture along the Minnesota Valley reprinted from government documents of the 1850s will be a convenience to scholars, as will the footnotes throughout the book. Also included are illustrations and maps which highlight the text. The volume should register well with historians and nonspecialist readers alike.

RADICAL TRADITION

Third Party Footprints: An Anthology from Writings and Speeches of Midwest Radicals. Edited by JAMES M. YOUNGDALE. (Minneapolis, Ross and Haines, Inc., 1966. vi, 357 p. Illustrations. \$6.75.)

Reviewed by Carl H. Chrislock

THIS BOOK leaves the reader with one dominant impression: midwest radicalism is a di-

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verse phenomenon. Its unifying thread has been a "negative outlook toward trusts and monopolies." Its affirmative response to the corporate control of American life, however, has been shaped by a "wide variety of . . . outlooks," ranging from "laissez faire capitalism to socialism, from devout, pietistic Christianity to vigorous agnosticism and from immigrant traditions to native liberalism based on New England traditions."

According to Mr. Youngdale, this galaxy of forces has produced three major radical schools in the Midwest. The first of these he calls "neo-mercantilist." Its core demand has been that "government regulate or adjust economic forces for the benefit of the poorer classes." A second group, the "laissez faire radical," has "cursed the trusts for violating the theory of free competition" and has "called for a return to the free market." The third school, the socialist, has demanded "far reaching social reorganization, directed toward public or cooperative ownership of factories and farms." Several selections in the anthology articulate one or the other of these three points of view: James Manahan, for example, is representative of the neo-mercantilist view; the senior Robert M. La Follette is one of the laissez-faire radicals; and Marcus Thrane is among the socialists included in Mr. Youngdale's roster. While the editor's selections stem largely from Minnesotans — Ignatius Donnelly, Charles A. Lindbergh, Sr., Knud Wefald, and Floyd B. Olson, to name a few — he also draws from adjacent states the words of Richard F. Pettigrew, Edward F. Ladd, and Arthur C. Townley of the Dakotas, Victor Berger from Wisconsin, and Henry A. Wallace of Iowa.

On the moot question of whether midwest radicalism is "regressive" or "progressive" — whether its basic kinship is with the far right of the 1960s or with creative twentieth-century reform — Mr. Youngdale, with a few qualifications, takes his stand on the side of those who argue that it is progressive. He also endorses the midwest radical suspicion (pointed up in several of the selections) that expansionist foreign policies are designed to secure overseas markets for big corporations and reduce the pressure for reform at home.

Many readers will no doubt disagree with

some of the affirmations made in the essay of introduction, and others will take issue with the principle of selection that guided construction of the anthology proper. One question in particular is troublesome: at what point does midwest radicalism part company with the broader midwest political tradition? Midwesterners in general distrust socialism, but a broad regional consensus has long supported some combination of what Youngdale calls "neo-mercantilism" and "laissez faire radicalism." Nevertheless this is an excellent book. The introductory essay is both informed and provocative, and the anthology includes source materials on midwest radicalism not readily available elsewhere.

CRUSADER IN CONGRESS

George W. Norris: Gentle Knight of American Democracy. By NORMAN L. ZUCKER. (Urbana and London, University of Illinois Press, 1966. x, 186 p. Frontispiece. \$5.00.)

Reviewed by Wilbur Elston

SCHOLARS continue to rediscover George W. Norris. Now it is a political scientist at Tufts University who has written a sympathetic political study of the fighting liberal who represented Nebraska in Congress for forty years (1903-1942) with such distinction.

There is ample reason for the scholars' interest in Norris. An indifferently educated product of the prairies, he led the spearhead of the Progressive movement and became one of the most powerful men in Washington. At odds with the leaders of his own Republican party long before he bolted it in 1936, he still left a remarkable record of legislative achievement. He was chiefly responsible for modernizing the rules of the House of Representatives; he drafted the Twentieth Amendment to the United States Constitution that eliminated the "lame-duck" Congress; he persuaded his home state of Nebraska to adopt the unicameral legislature; and he was responsible for the Tennessee Valley Authority and other legislation of lasting importance to agriculture and labor.

Part of the explanation for Norris' outstanding record is supplied by the simple fact that

Mr. Chrislock is well known to readers of Minnesota History for his many articles and reviews dealing with third-party politics in the state.

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he was a product of his times. He went to Washington as a political conservative but was quickly converted by the muckraking disclosures of the era into a political progressive, a man who supported Theodore Roosevelt's New Nationalism, Woodrow Wilson's New Freedom, and, in a later day, Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal. None of these were too distant from the Populism to which Norris had been drawn in Nebraska. Yet even with the backing of the progressives and popular support for reform, Norris could not have written such an impressive record without his superb knowledge and mastery of the legislative process.

Despite his admiration for Norris, the author gives a balanced portrait. The Nebraskan was an isolationist and was incredibly unsophisticated in foreign affairs, while at home he accepted a primitive conspiracy theory of economics and politics. He defended Jeffersonian democracy in a way that made him at times a spokesman for the past, and he failed to understand the significance of a democratically organized and oriented political party.

Mr. Zucker has done Norris' political career full justice in a well-written book with ample footnotes and an extensive bibliography that testify to the author's research. It is a good book for the layman, too, for it reminds him that in Norris' day, if not in our own, political virtue helped win political success.

LAKES HISTORY

The Great Lakes Reader. Edited by WALTER HAVIGHURST. (New York, Macmillan Company, 1966. xvii, 421 p. Illustrations. \$7.95.)
Great Lakes Country. By RUSSELL MCKEE. (New York, Thomas Y. Crowell Company, 1966. xii, 242 p. Illustrations, maps. \$6.95.)

Reviewed by John Anthony Caruso

THOUGH different in scope, treatment, and design, these two books complement each other in much of the theme they cover. Mr. Havighurst's work consists of a collection of tales of men who, since the days of the Sieur de La Salle, Louis Hennepin, and Claude Dablon, were participants in the scenes and episodes

which shaped the great inland maritime empire. The distinguished author of several books on the Great Lakes region here shows his great knowledge of that area as well as his unusual experience as an editor by weaving excerpts of stories, diaries, journals, and letters together with a running commentary that unites them in an engrossing story.

Mr. McKee's book, on the other hand, presents a concise, very readable account beginning with the earliest nomadic tribes who migrated to the Great Lakes region more than 13,000 years ago and ending with a discussion of the St. Lawrence Seaway, the recent chemical treatments employed in destroying lamprey eels, the alarming degree of pollution that could ruin the lakes, and the Federal Water Quality Act of 1965 that may save them.

Mr. Havighurst divides his book into eight sections, each of which he devotes to a different aspect of his fascinating subject. Included in the section on "Voyageur's Tales" is Father Hennepin's often-told but never old account of the ill-fated "Griffin," the first commercial vessel on the Great Lakes, with which the enigmatic La Salle planned to expand the fur trade and even to revolutionize it by using cargo vessels instead of canoes. The next section, one of the most colorful in the book, is devoted to the "Fortune Hunters" who, as they trafficked in beaver skins, sought the copper and iron mines in the region of Lake Superior. Beginning in 1840, when Douglass Houghton's extensive geological survey revealed deep lodes of copper on Keweenaw, fortune seekers hurried to that peninsula in increasing numbers. Selections by such gifted raconteurs as Houghton, Bela Hubbard, Peter McFarlane, Angus Murdoch, Charles Lanman, William A. Burt, and Raphael Pumpelly present a composite picture of fruitless search, heartbreak, toil, frustration, despair, and honesty or deceit. No less enthralling are the tales which Mr. Havighurst includes in his section on the "Straits of Mackinac," which was the emporium of the fur trade from the age of the French explorers to the palmy days of Alexander Henry, Ramsay Crooks, and Henry Rowe Schoolcraft in the middle of the nineteenth century. Another dramatic section, "Storm Warning," contains eleven stories of ships that encountered storm or disaster when, in the autumn and winter months, the mighty waters of the Great Lakes seemed "to be living in the heart of

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a hurricane." This splendid book of tales of America's heartland maintains its lively interest to the last page, introducing us to folk that are always colorful, unforgettable, and authentic. The field Mr. Havighurst covers is so extensive that omissions were perhaps unavoidable. The inclusion of excerpts from the writings of such voyageurs as the La Vérendryes, Jonathan Carver, and Peter Pond would have given a satisfying fullness to the first section of his book.

The characters in Mr. McKee's book are much more familiar but less convincing. His chapters on the explorers and missionaries contain about the same information that may be found in the usual textbooks on the subject, though his style is much more readable. In one chapter he presents some interesting though all too brief information on the methods employed by the French, the British, and their Indian allies in trapping and in fur collection. Succeeding chapters give the familiar stories of the Plains of Abraham, the campaigns of George Rogers Clark and Anthony Wayne, the War of 1812, the mining of copper on Keweenaw Peninsula, and the lumber industry.

Mr. McKee's best chapters are those early ones which describe the culture of the mound builders and the finding of the Kensington stone. Nowhere, however, does he attempt to re-evaluate or authenticate his material in accordance with the most recent findings of the best scholars. There are no footnotes, no bibliography, and no presentation of new material. The best feature of this book is the excellent and abundant pictures, which do much to vivify the altogether skimpy and conventional narrative.

RAILWAY BUILDER

Awakening Continent: The Life of Lord Mount Stephen. By HEATHER GILBERT. (Aberdeen, Scotland, Aberdeen University Press, 1965. xiii, 314 p. Maps, illustrations.)

Reviewed by W. L. Morton

THIS is volume one of the life of George Stephen, Lord Mount Stephen, a Scottish businessman, banker, and railway founder of nineteenth-century Montreal. Issued in a limited edition under a grant from the Louis W. and Maud Hill Family Foundation, the book is available primarily in libraries.

It is a well-researched and soundly organized piece of work, done with a good sense of proportions and relationships. It is a welcome addition to Minnesota's history for its careful account of the purchase of the St. Paul and Pacific Railway; it is a distinct contribution to Canadian history because it tells — apart from what may be revealed when the James J. Hill Papers are opened in 1981 — about all that is to be learned concerning one of the most powerful figures in Canada between 1850 and 1891.

Mrs. Gilbert has written history rather than biography, and it is as such that the book is valuable. Little has been left on record of a man who was reserved in manner and rather laconic in speech, and who had his personal papers burned. The author wisely does not attempt to analyze his personality or even to speculate about his ideas and convictions. Instead, she leaves his actions to speak for him, as Stephen in his lifetime was content to do.

Throughout the book Mrs. Gilbert throws some scant but valuable light on the Montreal business community of a century ago. Her account of the purchase and operation of the St. Paul and Pacific Railway (reorganized as the St. Paul, Minneapolis and Manitoba) is much the best and most informative one known to this reviewer. So is the far more extended narrative — the main body of the volume — on the way in which the Canadian Pacific Railway was organized and financed and the difficulties of procuring money fast enough to meet the breakneck pace at which it was constructed. Mrs. Gilbert gives a remarkably clear and perceptive account of how unusual the modes of its financing and organization were in the history of North American railroads. The line was built to operate, and profits were to come from operation, not construction — as in time they did come to the only major North American railway that has never gone into receivership.

Less well known and as important for historical understanding is the necessity for acquiring lines in Quebec to hold the political support of that province and of acquiring roads to communicate with American railways and defeat the opposition of the Grand Trunk Railway to the Canadian Pacific.

Mrs. Gilbert sees Stephen playing the leading role in all this, and no doubt her inference is

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correct. As a result, a principal achievement of the book is to oust Donald A. Smith, Stephen's cousin and partner, from his place in Canadian historiography as the chief architect of the Canadian Pacific. How typical of the men and what a pity that Smith and not Stephen drove the last spike at Craigellachie!

MISSIONARIES' VIEWPOINT

The Jesuits and the Indian Wars of the Northwest. By ROBERT IGNATIUS BURNS, S. J. (New Haven and London, Yale University Press, 1966. xvi, 512 p. Maps, illustrations. \$10.00.)

Reviewed by Priscilla Knuth

FATHER BURNS'S book covers the wars in the northern interior from the Cascades to the Rockies in the years 1855-59 and 1877, treating them together in what seems a valid relationship. The job is not easy, for there are in this part of the forest so many leaves, flowers, seeds, vines, birds, and other distracting details that the general contours are difficult to identify. Some of the lines of the complex situation are only indicated, but the author develops with great variety of detail those which contribute to his thesis that the Jesuits were an influence for peace among the Indians, and that they functioned as peacemakers between Indians and Americans.

As many American Protestants were well aware, the Jesuits were an entity apart from the conflicting aims of Indians and of American settlers in the Northwest. From the Indians' standpoint the priests were more disinterested than the land-hungry pioneers. If that apartness led to an expanded function in arranging peace where otherwise there would have been bloodshed or greater injustice, then it must have been a gain. But walking that line of "differentness" in its beneficently conceived aims was and is a complicated undertaking.

Although the Jesuits were almost totally dedicated in their paternalism, they surely had areas of ambivalence toward the Indians which the author does not explore. If by birth not American, they were nevertheless European, Christian, and civilized. Their influence with

the Indians must have been almost as much in the direction of change for the native culture and adaptation to European attitudes as was that of Protestant missionaries. Circumstances did not allow the cultural "long view" much play.

If the book is sometimes overdefensive, surely it is fair that such a view be presented of what has been, among other things, a subject of denominational controversy. It serves to balance some less just, less contributive Protestant-oriented accounts. Yet the reader should keep the title in mind. To state that General John Wool's declared object in selecting the site of Fort Simcoe was "that the troops might be in communication with Father Pandosy' nearby" is hardly to present a balanced narrative. In the same vein are the presentation of General William S. Harney's character only in his relation to the Jesuits (he was friendly), and the lack of recognition that there was a continuing argument between army officers and other non-ecclesiastics over what should be done about the "guilty" Indians of 1856.

Nevertheless, among the many accounts of Northwest Indians and Indian wars presented in more than a century, Father Burns's is one of the best; it adds new dimensions to our understanding. To this reviewer, for example, it has never been clear how the United States army "won" the war of 1855-58 without victories or significant Indian casualties. Father Burns's case is stronger than that which ascribes the peace to the army's slaughter of eight hundred Indian horses or to its superior weaponry.

That analysis and the bibliography alone are worth the price of this stimulating and handsome book.

INDEXES

THE INDEX for volume 39 of *Minnesota History*, covering the eight issues published in 1964 and 1965, is now available. Because of rising costs it has been necessary to discontinue the society's previous policy of supplying the current index without charge to members and subscribers upon request. All indexes may now be purchased for \$2.00 each. They are available for volumes 8, 16, 17, 23, 24, 27 through 32, and 34 through 39. Orders should be directed to Mrs. Irene Haas.

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. . . on the HISTORICAL HORIZON

"ONLY WHEN we apply the same tests of validity to a drawing or painting that a historian uses in evaluating written documents can we fully appreciate the contributions to history of the artist who portrayed vividly and accurately what he saw with his own eyes. The best of such painters were both fine artists and reliable historians." Thus writes John C. Ewers in an essay on "The Artist as Explorer and Historian," which serves as an introduction to his recent study of *Artists of the Old West* (New York, 1965. 240 p.). This handsomely illustrated work deals largely with the pioneering painters who "helped to make the Plains Indians of buffalo days the best-known primitive people in the world." Of the artists who portrayed the scenery and the natives of the upper Midwest, only Peter Rindisbacher, "Young Artist on the Red River of the North," is included for his pictorial record of that area and its people, red and white. A lengthy account of George Catlin stresses his role in "Hunting Indians with a Paintbrush" on the western plains; his visits to Fort Snelling and the Pipestone Quarry in 1835 and 1836 are overlooked. The two artists who went with Stephen H. Long to the Rocky Mountains in 1819-20 — Samuel Seymour and Titian R. Peale — are the subject of a chapter, but there is no mention of Seymour's second excursion with Long to the Minnesota country in 1823. It is, however, of more than ordinary interest to learn that as a member of Long's earlier expedition Peale produced the "earliest known" pictures of buffaloes grazing, of buffalo hunters on horseback, of Plains Indian tipis, and of some of the area's wildlife. Every reader must be especially grateful to Mr. Ewers and his publishers for the handsome and unusual reproductions presented in this volume.

Bertha L. Heilbron

NATURALISTS and students of frontier art alike will welcome an attractive little book entitled *Audubon in the West*, which has been compiled, edited, and supplied with an informative introduction and notes by John Francis McDermott (Norman, University of Oklahoma Press, 1965. xi, 131 p. Illustrations. \$4.95.). It makes available twenty letters written by the artist-naturalist to his family and friends while he was en route from Wheeling, Virginia, to Fort Union on the upper Missouri in the spring and early summer of 1843. He undertook the

arduous journey in order to assemble material for his second great contribution to natural history — the three-volume *Viviparous Quadrupeds of North America*. His objective was well defined in writing to a friend before his departure: "I cannot tell how long I may be absent, but hope to return loaded with knowledge new and abundance of Drawings m[ade] on the spot and not from stuffed-museums moth eaten remains." Mr. McDermott sets the stage for the naturalist's "last great adventure" in his introduction, and he outlines briefly the story of the homeward journey. The text here presented supplements the journal kept by Edward Harris, Audubon's companion on the journey of 1843, issued earlier under the same editorship as *Up the Missouri With Audubon* (1951).

Bertha L. Heilbron

"THE STORY of the Canadian Fur Trade," by W. A. McKay, which appears in four consecutive issues of *The Beaver* (Spring, Summer, Autumn, and Winter, 1965) reviews in an informal but accurate manner the trade from 1534 to the present day. Mr. McKay is a descendant of men who served the Hudson's Bay Company as early as 1790. His delightful humor in no way detracts from this account in which the history of Canada's fur trade is woven into the fabric of European entanglements and alliances in a lucid and straightforward style. The rivalry between the North West and the Hudson's Bay companies, as well as the competition with the American Fur Company, is delineated; the emergence of the Hudson's Bay Company as a monopoly and its ultimate surrender of vast holdings to Canada via the Crown in 1869 is recorded; and early trade on the Pacific Coast under the Russian czars Ivan IV and Peter the Great is described. "Seldom in history," says the author, "has the evolution of a nation been more directly influenced by a natural product than has that of Canada by fur."

Mary D. Nagle

A TWO-PART article on "Quetico Country" by Bruce M. Litteljohn which appears in the *Canadian Geographical Journal* for August and September, 1965, traces the history of this international sanctuary, "shaped by waterways, and dominated by transients," from prehistoric times to the present. Part I recounts the story of the waterway from 1688, when Jacques

de Noyon ascended the Kaministiquia River, through the explorations of the French fur traders, to the era of British rule and, ultimately, Canadian confederation in 1867. The second part of Mr. Litteljohn's piece deals with the development of the Quetico-Superior region after the abandonment of the Dawson Route about 1878. Among the Minnesotans named as instrumental in establishing the preserve in the first part of the century are Carlos Avery and Christopher C. Andrews; also noted by the author are the efforts of Ernest C. Oberholzer, Sigurd F. Olson, and Frederick Winston, which succeeded in preventing a "disastrous" damming of the boundary waters, proposed in 1926 but rejected by the International Joint Commission.

VOLUME I of the *Dictionary of Canadian Biography*, edited by George W. Brown, Marcel Trudel, and André Vachon, has been issued by the University of Toronto Press (Toronto, 1966. xxiii, 755 p. \$15.00.). Covering the years from 1000 to 1700, the book is arranged alphabetically and includes 594 biographies, a bibliography, and an index. A simultaneous edition in French has appeared. Incorporated into the first volume are introductory essays on "The Indians of Northeastern North America," "The Northern Approaches to Canada," "The Atlantic Region," "New France, 1524-1713," and a glossary of Indian tribal names. It is thought that the complete dictionary will run to eighteen or twenty volumes.

A BIOGRAPHICAL dictionary of *The Mountain Men and the Fur Trade of the Far West*, under the editorship of LeRoy R. Hafen, is being published by the Arthur H. Clark Company. The first two volumes of the projected six-volume work have recently been issued (Glendale, California, 1965. 397, 401 p.). More than twenty-five scholars have contributed sketches of fifty-seven men who engaged in the American fur trade during the first half of the nineteenth century. The editor has written a 176-page "summary history" of the trade with emphasis on the trans-Mississippi West, St. Louis, and the central Rockies. In each book the individual mountain men appear in alphabetical rather than chronological order; there are a number of portraits and, in Volume I, a fold-out map of the areas in which trade was carried on. The books are not separately indexed, as an index-guide is planned for the final volume.

MICHIGAN'S Mackinac Island State Park Commission has recently brought out several

publications that will interest students of early northwest and fur trade history. Under the title *Massacre at Mackinac* David A. Armour has prepared a new edition of Volume 1 of *Travels and Adventures in Canada and the Indian Territories*, by Alexander Henry, first published in 1809. Designed for general reading, the booklet is paper-bound and plentifully illustrated. The punctuation, spelling, and chapter titles have been modernized (1966. xii, 119 p.). An illustrated *Historic Guidebook* (40 p.) describes among other things the new Indian museum opened in the island's 128-year-old Indian dormitory—a building constructed under a treaty of 1836 to provide temporary housing for red men visiting the island to collect annuity payments. It has recently been restored, following the original plans for its construction drawn by Henry R. Schoolcraft and preserved in the Library of Congress. Leaflet No. 8 in the *Mackinac History* series is written by David A. Armour and devoted to crafts at Fort Michilimackinac. Drawing upon archaeological evidence, Mr. Armour describes such activities as brickmaking, metal working, bone and wood carving, and stone working, which characterized eighteenth-century life at the fort.

THE APRIL, 1965, issue of *North Dakota History* contains two articles which deal with eighteenth-century records of that state. "Fur Trader Chaboillez at Pembina," by Roy P. Johnson reports on the winter of 1797-98 as described by the North West Company trader whose diary was rediscovered recently in the Canadian Archives at Ottawa. The journal tells of loading supplies at Grand Portage; of traveling the northern canoe route via Rainy Lake, Lake of the Woods, and the Red River; of finding Hudson's Bay Company men in the process of establishing a post; and of building a post at Pembina before the "wintering" began in earnest. The author points out that Chaboillez was "unusually important in the town's annals" and that its history "must begin with this early journal." In the same issue Russell Reid discusses "Verendrye's Journey to North Dakota in 1738" in the light of the discovery of an earth lodge village north of Menoken in that state. Mr. Reid takes issue with the 1941 view of Dr. O. G. Libby that Verendrye visited the Sanish area and bases his contention on more recent archaeological studies.

A HANDBOOK of *American Forts: Yesterday and Today* has been written by Bruce Grant and strikingly illustrated with over a hundred pen and ink drawings by Lorence F. Bjorklund (New York, E. P. Dutton and Company, 1965).

381 p. \$5.95.). The volume divides the United States into ten regions, each of which is accompanied by a helpful map upon which are located all the forts discussed. The section on the mid-western states includes Michigan, Wisconsin, Illinois, and Indiana; the Dakotas, Nebraska, Iowa, and Minnesota comprise the north central region. While the book is a useful and attractive reference work for youngsters or non-critical general readers, it by no means sustains the claim made on the jacket that it is "a definitive account of the more than 1200 forts built in America." The four pages devoted to Minnesota include descriptions of Forts Snelling, Ripley, and Ridgely and listings of three fur trading posts, Fort Beauharnois, Fort Charlotte, and Fort St. Charles — the latter being located rather confusingly "on the southern shore of Lake of the Woods of the Northwest Angle Inlet." The unexplained face of an Arapaho brave stares at the reader from a page about the Sioux Uprising, which is described as having been "fomented by Confederate agents."

SUBTITLED "The History of a Failure," an article by Harold Hickerson on "William T. Boutwell of the American Board and the Pillager Chippewa" appears in the Winter, 1965, issue of *Ethnohistory*. After sketching briefly the background and customs of the Leech Lake band among whom the missionary lived from 1833 to 1837, the author presents his thesis that Boutwell's mission was indeed a failure in that he made no converts; he used village land for "his personal ends"; and, primarily, he tried to impose his religion and his civilization's concept of private ownership on a culture devoted to communal sharing. Mr. Hickerson's sources include the Edmund F. Ely Papers, held by the St. Louis County Historical Society, and the journals of Lawrence Taliaferro and the William T. Boutwell Papers, both in the Minnesota Historical Society.

A FINDING AID, compiled by Laura E. Kelsey, has been published by the National Archives and Records Service as a *List of Cartographic Records of the General Land Office*. It is number 19 in a series of *Special Lists* (Washington, 1964. v. 202 p.). The guide describes manuscript and annotated maps, boundary survey maps, field notes, and published maps. Among thirty-five entries for Minnesota in the manuscript section are J. W. Abert's "Plan of the Military Reserve at Fort Snelling," plats and diagrams of Indian reservations such as Red Lake and Grand Portage, and sketches of public surveys beginning with the year 1856.

THE MONTANA Aeronautics Commission has published a lavish volume entitled *Montana and the Sky: The Beginning of Aviation in the Land of the Shining Mountains* (Helena, 1966. 343 p.). Its author is Frank W. Wiley, a veteran Miles City pilot. There is a real need for studies in the history of aeronautics on the state level, and one hopes that more of these will be attempted before the recollections of "old timers" in the field are forever lost. Unfortunately this book should not serve as a model for such studies. It has been beautifully produced and is enhanced by a truly fine collection of early photographs, but the contents will prove disappointing to historians. The text consists of a series of biographical sketches and brief essays based on the author's own reminiscences, which have been supplemented in some cases by a limited amount of research. These are arranged in no discernible order, and they add up to a chatty, personal "who's who," heavily larded with nicknames, anecdotes, and family connections. The reader will look in vain for a straightforward account of what Montana has contributed to aviation and what its development has meant to the state.

Rhoda R. Gilman

GORDON PARKS, a Kansas-born, Minnesota-reared, nationally known photographer, is the author of *A Choice of Weapons* (New York, 1966. x, 274 p.). An autobiography which encompasses the years from 1928 through 1943, the book tells of Mr. Parks's youth in the Twin Cities, including attendance at St. Paul's Mechanic Arts and Central high schools, work as a hotel bus boy, a pianist, a professional basketball player, a dining car waiter, and at numerous other jobs. His recollections illumine clearly the grim life of the depression years in the 1930s as experienced by Negro residents of the Minneapolis north side and the Dale-Rondo district in St. Paul. Mr. Parks recalls how professional success first opened up when Mrs. Frank Murphy of "the most fashionable store in St. Paul" offered him an opportunity in the world of fashion photography, and the remainder of the book recounts his experiences at the Southside Art Center in Chicago and his move — with the aid of a Julius Rosenwald fellowship — to Washington as a cameraman for the Farm Security Administration and later for the Office of War Information.

IN A LIVELY article published in the *Indiana Magazine of History* for December, 1965, John T. Flanagan takes "A Look at Some Middle Western Gazetteers." Noting that historians "today make little use of gazetteers for obvious

reasons," Mr. Flanagan points out that they nevertheless have value as contemporary records, and that—depending on the interests and reporting ability of the particular author—they sometimes contain bits of local history not readily available elsewhere. Among those he surveys are *The Ohio Gazetteer* (1816), *Gazetteer of the State of Michigan, in Three Parts* (1838), *The Indiana Gazetteer* (1826 and 1833), *A Gazetteer of the States of Illinois and Missouri* (1823), the *Guide for Emigrants* (1831), the *Wisconsin Gazetteer* (1853), *A Glimpse of Iowa in 1846*, and N. H. Parker's *Minnesota Handbook, for 1856–57*.

THREE REPRINTS of interest to readers of this magazine were issued in 1965 by the Minneapolis firm of Ross and Haines, Inc. Daniel Buck's book on *Indian Outbreaks*, first published in Mankato in 1904 (299 p.), contains accounts of the Spirit Lake Massacre and of the Sioux Uprising which draw heavily upon such sources as Charles E. Flandrau, Lavina Eastlick, Justina Krieger, and Henry H. Sibley. George Catlin's *Letters and Notes on the Manners, Customs, and Condition of the North American Indians* has been reproduced in two volumes (264 p., 266 p.) from the 1841 edition of that work. A brief introductory note about the artist has been added by the publisher. The three-volume Elliott Coues edition of *The Expeditions of Zebulon Montgomery Pike* (955 p.) has been reprinted in a boxed, two-volume set which includes Pike's original preface, that of Coues in 1895, notes, maps, and an index. Although little new material has been incorporated which would update these books with more recent scholarship in the fields, the reprints will prove of value to libraries and schools.

THE ACCOUNT of the Sioux Uprising written by Minnesota's first schoolteacher, Harriet E. Bishop McConkey, under the title *Dakota War Whoop* (1864), has been reprinted as one of the Lakeside Classics (Chicago, 1965. xxvi, 395 p.). The editor, Dale L. Morgan, has written an informative introduction which provides helpful background to this "truly personal in tone" narrative and which includes several letters from Miss Bishop to Henry H. Sibley. In two of these the authoress requested the politician to write an introduction to her work, "an important point" being "an endorsement of its correctness." The book has been cut from its original length, not, as Mr. Morgan explains, by omitting statements of fact, but by "reducing the moralizing, the sentimentalizing, and what must be called the gush." Valuable footnotes and an index have been added.

THE MINNESOTA SCENE

IN A PRIVATELY printed historical booklet Kenneth D. Ruble tells *The Peavey Story* (Minneapolis, 1963. 72 p.) with emphasis on the career of Frank H. Peavey who in 1874 founded the grain terminal business which bears his name. Starting in Sioux City, Iowa, Peavey moved to Minneapolis in 1884 to be close to his chief customers. There, Mr. Ruble points out, "one year after . . . his efforts, combined with those of the Minneapolis Millers Association, resulted in Minneapolis becoming the number one wheat-receiving market of the United States." Mr. Ruble describes in chronological order the growth of the firm through building and buying of other companies, as well as through experimenting with concrete terminals, rust prevention, and chemical weed controls. The last third of the work is devoted to the business expansion of the company after Peavey's death in 1901 to 1953 when the principal interest in the Russell-Miller Milling Company was acquired.

TWO ARTICLES of particular interest to readers of this magazine appear in the *Swedish Pioneer* for July, 1965. A brief report by Roy Swanson tells of the "Fahlstrom Memorial Dedicated in Afton Township, Minnesota" to the state's first Swede, Jacob Fahlstrom, and his Indian wife. The dedication was sponsored by the historical society of the Minnesota conference of the Methodist church in honor of the "Indian Swede" who went to the Fort Snelling area around 1820 and was active for twenty-two years in missionary efforts on the frontier. The second article, written by Walfrid Engdahl, considers the political career of "Magnus Johnson—Colorful Farmer-Labor Senator from Minnesota." One of the first two Farmer-Laborites to be elected to the United States Senate, Johnson was also backed by the Nonpartisan League and the Working People's Non-Partisan League. The author points out that the Swedish-born farmer, aligned with progressives such as George W. Norris of Nebraska and Robert M. LaFollette of Wisconsin, succeeded in "obtaining a survey on butter imports which resulted in higher tariffs for the protection of the American dairy farmers," but that in general his two-year stint in Congress had not resulted in the achievements promised during his campaign.

THE JANUARY, 1964, issue of *Northern Lights*, published by the Minnesota Region of the Antique Automobile Club of America, is devoted to a "Pictorial Gallery of Minnesota-

made Cars and Trucks." Among those pictured in reproductions of old photographs and advertisements are the Luverne, the Magnolia, the Wolfe, the Wilcox, the Pan, the Maplebay, the Duesenberg, and the Wallof and Copher trucks. Also included in the issue is "the most complete listing presently available of cars and trucks manufactured in Minnesota." Twenty-four automobiles and eight trucks are named, along with dates and places of manufacture where these are known.

HISTORICAL RESOURCES of three of Minnesota's Chippewa Indian reservations receive attention in a series of studies sponsored by the bureau of Indian affairs and prepared in 1964 by Aguar, Jyring and Whiteman, planning associates. Under the general title *Tourist and Recreational Resources* are booklets for the Leech Lake (29 p.), Bois Forte (25 p.), and White Earth reservations (21 p.). Each of these includes a thoughtfully written section on "historic and cultural sites," examining how such features as prehistoric mounds, early trading post sites, Indian missions, and in one case an old logging camp, can be developed as authentic and informative tourist attractions. Particular attention is given to the economic potential of history in the case of Leech Lake, which, according to the planners, probably has "as large a number of sites of old fur trading posts, early Indian villages, burial mounds, and other points of historical and cultural interest" as can be found "anywhere in the State of Minnesota." A full-page map shows the location of places of historical interest in the Leech Lake area.

THE STORY of the Dodd Road and the man for whom it was named is recounted in the January, 1966, issue of the Dakota County Historical Society's publication, *Over The Years*. The article tells how settlers in the St. Peter and Minnesota River area, under the supervision of Captain William B. Dodd and Auguste L. Larpen-teur, built the sixty-five-mile road from Rock Bend (now St. Peter) to St. Paul in 109 days during the spring of 1853. The road made it possible for pioneers who "had no way of getting their surplus produce to St. Paul" to make the trip throughout the year. The article points out that, on the recommendation of Captain Jesse L. Reno, Dodd was reimbursed for his expenditures in the project at \$188 per mile. His subsequent career is also briefly traced.

IN 1964 the Minnesota Historical Society undertook a project to evaluate the achievements of Minnesota's first twenty-nine governors. A

panel of thirty-two qualified historians and political scientists was asked to rank in order and to comment on the five governors whom each felt had made the greatest contributions to the state; twenty-three completed and returned the evaluation form. The results of this survey have now been tabulated and are reproduced in mimeographed form along with a fourteen-page commentary by the society's director, Russell W. Fridley. The document reveals that the survey participants cast their votes for only fifteen governors; fourteen of the state's chief executives received no mention at all. The five judged most outstanding were in order of their ratings: Floyd B. Olson (1931-36), John S. Pillsbury (1876-82), Alexander Ramsey (1860-63), John A. Johnson (1905-09), and Harold E. Stassen (1939-43). In his analysis of the figures, Mr. Fridley points out that Olson led the field by a considerable majority and that Mr. Stassen was only one vote ahead of Luther W. Youngdahl (1947-51), who "narrowly missed inclusion in the 'select five.'" The other nine governors mentioned all received ratings markedly below these six. They were in order: Henry H. Sibley (1858-60), John Lind (1899-1901), Orville L. Freeman (1955-61), William R. Marshall (1866-70), Adolph O. Eberhart (1909-15), Lucius B. Hubbard (1882-87), Knute Nelson (1893-95), Theodore Christian-son (1925-31), and Jacob A. O. Preus (1921-25). Former Governor Elmer L. Andersen and incumbent Governor Karl F. Rolvaag were not included in the study. Mr. Fridley goes on to examine parallels among the careers of the outstanding chief executives and to evaluate the reasons given by the panelists for their selections.

A by-product of this study—and of Mr. Fridley's deep interest in Minnesota's political history—is an article by him published in the *Minneapolis Tribune* for September 11. Under the title "Are Past Governors Pattern for Future?" he makes a number of observations concerning the men who have been selected for the state's highest office. Among other things, he finds that "they have been a remarkably youthful lot," averaging only forty-three years when first elected; that they "have been drawn from two general ethnic backgrounds"—Yankee and Scandinavian; and that most have resided either in the Twin Cities or the southern part of the state. He concludes that "Minnesota's struggles for the governorship reflect a colorful blend of the conservatism and radicalism that have shaped the state's volatile political tradition—Republican predominance, continuing agrarian protest, numerous third parties and attraction to independent candidates."



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